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Over 200 paddlers came out for the first annual Golden Gull Water Regatta on Oct. 1 in Minden. The original event started small, but quickly branched out to include locals and visitors participating on the sunny autumn day. /TIM YANO Special to the Times

Stay golden, Minden

by **EMILY STONEHOUSE**
Editor

What started as a sweet and simple idea to adventure enthusiast Johnny Waite, the Golden Gull Water Regatta quickly became an event that kicked off the fall season for the whole community.

“It went really well,” he told the *Times* after the big day on Sunday, Oct. 1, “it went well beyond what we were expecting.”

Waite resides in Minden, but has had a taste for adventure his whole life, and wanted to offer the chance to partake in that adventure right in his backyard. But here’s the catch: the event was designed for folks over the age of 50, and it turns out, that crowd was

waiting for the opportunity.


“There are people in this community that really still want to do adventurous stuff, and they’re eager,” he said. “That’s what made the event work so well. It was geared towards older people to be comfortable doing that adventurous stuff.”

The idea for the event stemmed from Waite wanting to offer an experience for his father,

who is in his 80s. “I thought I’d put the event up on Facebook to see if anyone wanted to join my dad and I for a paddle. I thought we’d maybe get half a dozen people.”


But within a few days of the post, Waite received a phone call from the Rockliffe in Moore Falls. They had been getting calls about the event; folks trying to book rooms

see **ALL** page 2



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County gets in line early for new ambulance

by **JAMES MATTHEWS**
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Haliburton County’s paramedics are getting a new ride. County council agreed during its Sept. 27 regular meeting to give pre-budget approval for a new ambulance. It will cost \$262,897 plus taxes with a required deposit of 30 per cent.

Tim Waite, the chief paramedic and director of the Haliburton County Paramedic Service, said it’s been past practice to replace an ambulance annually and two every six years or when the vehicle up for replacement is at 300,000 kilometres of service.

There’s currently one ambulance ordered, and the county is awaiting its arrival.

“Prices of ambulances have significantly (gone) up,” he said.

Waite said he remembers a time when an ambulance would cost \$148,000. The vehicle previously ordered that they’re awaiting delivery this year dinged the county purse at close to \$200,000.

“And they’ve gone up nine per cent this year,” he said. “Very significant increases in prices.”

He recommends council and the paramedic service get their order in the books as soon as possible.

“Getting the ambulance in a timely fashion is still taking time,” Waite said. “So the idea is to get our order in now so hopefully we can receive this ambulance sometime in 2024.”

The ambulance to be replaced has 308,398 kilometres on its odometer and is a 2017 model.

“It’ll have another year of driving,” Waite said. “It’ll be the second vehicle up, but it’ll still put on significant kilometres in the next year.”

He also urged council to OK the inclusion of a power load system on the new vehicle.

“The power load system is becoming the industry standard,” he said. “Most services are going to it now. It eliminates the actual lift into the back of the ambulance.”

The power load allows the paramedics to roll the stretcher onto a platform and secure it. It then loads and secures the stretcher and patient in the ambulance without any lifting or exertion required.

The system will assist the paramedics and mitigate potential injury from loading the patient and stretcher into the back

of the ambulance. The power stretchers currently in place have eliminated most of the lifting during a patient carried call, but loading into the back of the ambulance still requires significant strain on back, arms, and shoulders, especially if the patient is quite large.

Waite stated in his report that the paramedic service has experienced significant increases in call volumes since 2020. Increased call volume results in additional lifting by staff during a shift.

“In 2020, we experienced two lost time back injuries due to lifting,” he wrote. “In 2023 to date, we have seven reported injuries, five of which have resulted in lost time.”

If the power load system is installed at the factory, there’s probably about a \$5,000 savings rather than retrofitting an ambulance later, he said.

Haliburton County Paramedic Services replaces ambulances and other equipment on a predetermined schedule.

In a written report to council, Waite said that the department is recommending the previous practice of single-source purchasing of the ambulance fleet from Crestline Industries be continued.

“Crestline ambulances are made of a lightweight aluminum and come with a lifetime paint warranty as the ‘box’ is powder coated and extremely durable,” he wrote. “Our entire fleet consists of Crestline which creates consistency of layout and use for the paramedics. In addition, it allows us to maintain a consistent stock of parts.”

Councillor Bob Carter, the mayor of Minden Hills, said that, with steady population growth, the closure of the Minden Emergency Department, and emergency services response times in the face is increased calls, council should endeavour to stay ahead of the curve.

“I know the ambulance you’re replacing can always go into some sort of a reserve that if you need it,” Carter said. “If you’re close to the 400,000 kilometres on it, there’s not going to be much left of them.

“We have to make sure that we can continue to have an adequate supply and we should not right now but probably next year look at the possibility we may need to get an extra unit.”

“That’s something we can talk about during the budgeting process,” said Warden Liz Danielsen, the mayor of Algonquin Highlands. “As well, early next year if we have a strategic planning process, we’ll include that in the discussion.”

All about the details at regatta

from page 1

and inquire about the logistics. That’s when Waite knew it was going to be big.

By the day of the event, over 200 paddlers arrived at Rotary Park in Minden. Some felt the most comfortable with the river portion of the route, while others committed to finishing at the Rockcliffe, just off Gull Lake. Waite noted that the paddlers seemed to range in age, from their 50s to their 80s and everything in between.

With that many people on the water, it was apparent that they needed to keep safety as their number one priority, so Waite ensured the entire route was “cell phone friendly”, and they also offered a lead boat, a follow boat, and supervisors to keep an eye on paddlers throughout the duration of the regatta.

They also ordered shuttle buses to assist to move paddlers between the start and finish; offering ease and peace of mind for the whole experience.

While Waite added his flair for adventure to the event, it was his wife, Andrea Hagarty, who made the regatta a success from behind the scenes. “I’m good at the adventure stuff,” he chuckled, “but Andrea, she’s all about the little details. And all the feedback we got was because of those details.”

Waite also noted that Hagarty, who has spent decades of her life committed to the well-known Bonnie View Inn in Haliburton, has started to branch out in the community, and one of his favourite parts of the day was seeing her shine with

the brand new event. “So many people know her from all she’s done,” he said, “but to see her in a new context, having fun, that was just awesome.”

While the first year was a huge success, Waite said that they are already planning the details for next year. “This year was free, but next year there will be a modest entry fee,” he said. Though he noted that the fee will include registration, as well as swag and additional items to legitimize the experience. This year, the organizers received unprompted donations from the Haliburton Forest Paddle Shop, Algonquin Outfitters, Boshkung Brewing, and the Bonnie View in the form of prizes.

He hopes this is an event that will really kick off the fall season in Minden moving forward, noting that rooms were booked at the Rockcliffe Moore Falls and Dominion Hotel from people coming to the community. “I think it’s a really good opportunity for people to see Minden,” he said. “We were able to introduce so many people to the community.”

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MH staff will probe water bill increase

by JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Minden Hills council will rally staff to look into an alleged water billing error at an apartment building.

The owners of an eight-unit apartment complex noticed a jump in water costs following repairs to the metre. Council heard their concerns during its regular meeting Sept. 28.

Irene and John Gerber own an apartment building on Bobcaygeon Road in Minden. They bought the building, which used to be an animal hospital, in September 2019 and it was modified to an eight-unit apartment building.

"In the first year, there was no water being used," Irene Gerber said. "But we still paid our projected fee every month."

The apartments were occupied the following year.

In May, notice was given by the municipality that the building's water metre needed to be repaired and access to the building was required.

"A very nice young came," she said. "He said that the metre was reading correctly but that the sensor wires were incorrectly hooked up."

She said the technician repaired the sensor wires and they waited until they got a bill for service.

"It was a big bill," she said. "It was a shock to receive a bill for \$6,588 as a reconciliation bill."

Irene Gerber asked Minden council how far back does the reconciliation bill go and at what rate is the bill?

"Because rates change throughout those years," she said. "Is that taken into consideration? And how did they arrive at the idea

of going back, and how far back, and what is the authority in bylaw ... to back-bill?"

She said it would've been nice to have their issues addressed at the town hall. But, given staff shortages, there wasn't anybody they could speak with so they had to bring their concerns to council.

"These questions could've been answered by somebody in charge of water," she said. "But apparently there was nobody that had the authority to answer these questions."

The Gerbers brought water bills from their apartment building and a neighbouring building for comparison purposes.

"I defer to you for the answers and then we proposed a resolution at the end of this based on the comparison to the other building that we would be prepared to pay," she said.

Councillor Ivan Ingram said it appears to him that the Gerbers have been paying the minimum until the water metre was repaired. And the metre corrected the amount all the way back before it was repaired. Payment during previous years weren't taken as partial payments.

The money the Gerbers already paid isn't subtracted from the corrected rate with the metre's repair.

"It's an estimate," Ingram said.

Mayor Bob Carter said there needs to be a staff report into the matter.

"In the interim, can we ensure there's no penalty charges on this?" Coun. Tammy McKelvey said.

"Staff will come back with a report," Carter said.

Deputy Mayor Lisa Schell said staff wouldn't have had authority to change the bills. It would have needed to come before council to be decided.

"We appreciate that you were able to make it," Schell said.

Search continues for wanted person

On Monday Sept. 25, there was an increased police presence in the area of Gelert road in Minden Hills as a result of a search for a wanted person.

At approximately 1 p.m. members of the Haliburton Highlands Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) attended a residence on Gelert Road to locate and arrest a wanted person. This person fled into a wooded area.

As a precaution, members of the OPP Emergency Response Team (ERT), Canine Unit, Aviation Services and Tactics and Rescue Unit (TRU) were dispatched to the

area to assist in the search. The person was not located. OPP continue to investigate. There is no risk to public safety.

Anyone who may have information that may assist with this investigation are asked to contact Haliburton Highlands OPP at 705-286-1431 or toll-free at 1-888-310-1122. You can also provide information anonymously by contacting Kawartha Haliburton Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or online at <https://www.khcrimestoppers.com>.

Submitted



You better be-leaf it

The fall colours seem to have peaked early this year, with reds, golds, and yellows spotting the landscape. Tammy Nash captured the colours in Algonquin Highlands. /Submitted by Tammy Nash

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VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted with a hybrid model of in-person and electronic participation in accordance with the Municipality Act. Meetings begin at 9:00 AM unless otherwise noted. The scheduled upcoming meetings are:

October 12- Regular Council Meeting

October 26- Regular Council Meeting

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by attending in-person or a live-stream link available on the Township CivicWeb Portal at mindenhills.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingTypeList.aspx or by using the direct link provided in the notice. Meeting agendas are not displayed during the meeting; please download by visiting our CivicWeb Portal at mindenhills.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingTypeList.aspx. Please note the live stream file/video will be available to the public for the duration of one week after the Council Meeting.

CULTURAL CENTRE

Shifting Lens, a group exhibit featuring 15 artists from the Eastern Hub of the Ontario Society of Artists, will be on display until November 25, 2023, in the Agnes Jamieson Gallery. Admission is by donation. The Gallery is open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 am – 4 pm. Admission is by donation. For more information, please call 705-286-3763 or email culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca

The Minden Hills Museum & Heritage Village and Nature's Place is open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 am – 4 pm until Saturday, October 7. This week features hands-on activities taking place Tuesday to Friday from 3-4 pm. Visit us on Saturday for Move & Groove at 11 am and Autumn Crafts at 2 pm. The Heritage Village is also open for self-guided tours. Admission is by donation. For more information, please call 705-286-3763 or email culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca

WASTE DISPOSAL SITES

Thanksgiving Holiday Monday (Oct 9) Waste Disposal Site Hours

Scotch Line Landfill: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Ingoldsbys Transfer Station: 12 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Iron Mine Transfer Station: 12 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Little Gull Transfer Station: 12 p.m. – 6 p.m.

OFFICE CLOSURE

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Contract Bridge

When: Every Tuesday, 9am - 12pm
Where: Minden United Church basement, 21 Newcastle Street
Our weekly contract bridge has resumed and it's hoped that many of those who played before Covid will come back, along with new members. All levels of skill welcomed.

Living & Dying Well Gatherings

When: Wednesday, Oct. 4, 6:30 to 8 p.m.
Where: Abbey Retreat Centre (in person at the abbey retreat centre) RSVP to: info@abbeyretreatcentre.ca We'll hear from a Funeral Director, Death Doula, Lawyer and Medical professional. We'll touch on these topics and more: Wills, DNR's, banking details. Palliative Care, Hospice, Funerals, Memorial Services and Death Plans and Rituals. Body, Mind and Soul Wellness Resources.

Haliburton Rotary Membership Open House

When: Thursday, Oct. 5, 6 to 7:30 p.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion - Mountbatten Room
Are you looking for a way to deepen your connection to our community and have a ton of fun while doing it? Look no further than the Rotary Club of Haliburton. Come learn what it's all about at this low pressure presentation. RSVP to haliburtonrotary@gmail.com

Autumn Harvest Dance

When: Oct. 6, 6 p.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion,
Come join the Lion's Club for their Autumn Harvest Dance featuring the highlands soul

band 'Adverse Conditions'. Doors and bar open at 6 p.m. with beef on a bun at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$35 per person or \$60 per couple. To purchase tickets or for more information please visit www.haliburtonlions.com or call 705-457-1354.

Coffeehouse

When: Tuesday Oct. 10, 7 to 8 p.m.
Where: Castle Antiques, 223 Highland St. Haliburton
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Minden Legion Branch 636

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Tuesday: Food 5 p.m. Canoe FM Bingo 6 p.m.

Thursday: Cribbage 1 to 3 p.m.,

Darts 7 to 9 p.m. and Euchre 7 to 9 p.m.

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Every other Friday Karaoke 8 to 11 p.m.

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Schedules are subject to change without notice. Check our Facebook page Minden Legion Branch 636 for more info.



Mill Pond Makeover

The Mill Pond Restaurant owners Brad Archer and Kim Switzer stop for a photo during ACM Designs' Restaurant Makeover Partner Party on Thursday, Sept. 28. The Mill Pond Restaurant was the winner of ACM Designs' Restaurant Makeover this year, and recieved an interior design transformation. The partner party was held to thank community partners who made the renovation possible. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff

Below, members of the ACM Designs team smile during the Restaurant Makeover Partner Party.



County leans conservatively on new debt policy

by JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Haliburton County has taken a conservative approach when it comes to taking on debt.

The upper tier's first debt policy was approved by county council during its Sept. 27 meeting. The policy sets an annual repayment limit at 15 per cent, less than the provincial Ministry of Municipal Affairs' recommended 25 per cent limit.

"The policy includes recommendations that provide guidance and limits to be considered by Council and staff when contemplating entering into new debt," said Andrea Robinson, the county's corporate services director.

That limit is the maximum amount that a municipality can pay each year in principal and interest payments for its long-term debt and other long-term financial commitments.

"This conservative approach recognizes the fiscal limitations of our community," Robinson said. "Also, it is recommended within the policy that upon repayment of long-term debt the amounts that are already committed within the budget for annual payments be reallocated to the capital program or reserves until they reach stability."

So for 2023, a limit of 15 per cent equates

to \$3,749,168 for all outstanding debt in comparison to \$4,801,224 using the ministry's 25 per cent limit.

The county currently has a total of \$7,066,227 in outstanding debt. All debentures with Infrastructure Ontario include \$1.725-million borrowed in 2015 over a 20-year term at 3.24 per cent interest; \$3-million borrowed in 2020 for a 10-year term at 1.38 per cent; \$4.152-million borrowed in 2022 for a 10-year term at 4.24 per cent.

The county's 2023 debt and interest payments total \$1,035,406.

The county didn't previously have a debt policy on its books. It relied on the Borrowing Bylaw passed annually along with the ministry's repayment limit.

The county's Borrowing Bylaw addresses temporary or short-term borrowing. It allows the warden and treasurer to borrow on a short term, temporary basis to cover operating expenses until taxes and other revenues are received.

"I think your conservative approach is a good approach," said Councillor Murray Fearrey, the mayor of Dysart.

Coun. Bob Carter, the mayor of Minden Hills, suggested the debt policy be changed to a 50-year term limit for housing as opposed to 40 years. The amended term limit would be in accord with the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

New COVID-19 variants aren't as severe as previous

by JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Local public health officials are preparing for another “atypical” respiratory season.

Dr. Natalie Bocking, the medical officer of health and the CEO at the Haliburton Kawartha Pine Ridge District Health Unit, said health professionals have been getting questions from the community about what to expect from respiratory ailments this time of the year.

Fall in general is an incredibly busy time for the health unit as is the same across many other sectors, she said.

“In general, we’re preparing folks for what’s considered to be another atypical respiratory season,” Bocking said. “Atypical is in comparison to pre-pandemic.”

Public health officials expect influenza season to begin early again and they expect to have some measure of COVID-19 infections.

“And we’re expecting other respiratory viruses to still be somewhat higher than what we saw pre-pandemic,” she said.

The components of readiness include surveillance and data collection, supports for infection prevention and control, public education, vaccination, testing, and treatment.

Last year’s flu season was intense, she said. It began earlier and peaked earlier than previous years, and that had a number of implications for Emergency Departments, hospitals, and long-term care homes.

In the southern hemisphere, which has traditionally indicated what can be expected from flu season in Canada and the U.S., children have been particularly affected.

Regarding the coronavirus, Bocking said there’s been a relatively long spell of few hospitalizations. When you think about the summer, there was little word about COVID-19.

However, data from wastewater surveillance across provinces has shown an increase and hospitalizations are beginning to rise.

“We’re not seeing a lot locally yet, but we are anticipating for that to increase,” she said.

She said the coronavirus continues to mutate and evolve

and there now is a number of “recombinant variants.”

Recombinant means more than one variant have mutated together to form a whole new variant, Bocking said. Descendants of the XBB variant continue to dominate.

“The good news is we’ve not had a new variant that has set us back similar to what happened with omicron,” she said. “New variants, while they’re very, very contagious, they do not seem to be causing more severe illness than previous variants.”

Bocking said there’s a lot of work that goes into the beginning of a season in preparation for worst case scenarios.

“The vaccination landscape continues to get a little more complicated or nuanced,” she said and added that three main vaccinations should be considered this fall.

They’re the flu and COVID-19 vaccines, plus a new vaccine for respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) that’s “specifically for residents of long-term care homes that are older than 60 years of age.”

Ontario is the first jurisdiction in the world to roll out an RSV vaccine for at-risk seniors, she said.

The updated flu and COVID-19 vaccines are prioritized by segments of the population at higher risk. The high-risk campaign takes place throughout October before it opens for general population.

It continues to be recommended that vaccines be taken six months apart, she said.

“The shifting of the landscape for COVID-19 vaccines is that we’re really not referring to it as booster doses as much,” Bocking said. “It’s aligning more with the influenza vaccine.”

Annual flu shots aren’t called boosters, she said.

“COVID-19, the vaccine, might not ever quite be the same as influenza in terms of being able to match the strains exactly because it mutates so quickly,” she said. “But it’s moving closer in that direction and maybe someday we will reach that point.”



High in the sky

Sir Sam's Ski and Ride is once again offering their chairlift rides for folks to see the fall colours in the county. They are opening their doors on Oct. 7 for their annual Fall Festival. /TIM YANO Special to the Times



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DAVID ZILSTRA
Publisher and Ad Director,
david.zilstra@gmail.com

JENNIFER MCEATHRON, Admin
jenniferm@haliburtonpress.com

DEBBIE COMER, Circulation
debbie@haliburtonpress.com

EMILY STONEHOUSE, Editor
emily@haliburtonpress.com

JAMES MATTHEWS,
Local Journalism
Initiative Reporter
james@haliburtonpress.com

VIVIAN COLLINGS, Reporter
vivian@haliburtonpress.com

KAREN LONDON
Production Co-ordinator
karen@haliburtonpress.com



STACEY POTLIVO
Production

REED SACHAROFF
Production

LAURA SMITH, Sales
laura@haliburtonpress.com

PAUL BANELOPOULOS, Sales
paul@haliburtonpress.com

INSIDE SALES
classifieds@haliburtonpress.com

2 IGA Road, Box 97
Minden, ON, K0M 2K0
• 705-286-1288 • Fax 705-286-4768
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What's your story?

THIS ISN'T a traditional editorial.

It's an ask for help.

As the summer season settles into the colourful facade we see outside our windows, nature begins to fall into a slumber.

It's not a time of freshness, of newness, of rebirth.

It's the season of sleep.

And if I am being transparent, I am tired. Many are.

And that's okay. It's all part of the cycle. As living creatures, we need our sleep. There is not a single thing in nature that blooms all year long.

In this industry, we're always on. Because even in a small town, the news never stops. Our very small but mighty team tries to set some boundaries, tries to take some breaths; because if those boundaries are not put in place we could easily be working every single day of the week. And sometimes we do. Sometimes we forget to take those breaths. Sometimes we can't.

And we get jokes about what happens in small

towns. It's not always fast-paced and record-breaking (though sometimes it is). Often, it's the bake sales, the track meets, the cheque givings that fill up our calendars.

As they should. I believe both Vivian Collings, the editor of the *Echo*, and myself are in these roles because we truly, from the bottom of our hearts, believe that everything in this community is worthy of story, everyone has something to share, and nothing is too big or too small for our little papers.

And between three reliable newspapers that all have their places in this community, I'd say the majority of the news is covered. Somehow.

But when something falls through the cracks, we feel gutted. Sometimes covering the news feels like picking

a favourite child. Yes, there are some stories that belong on the front page and perhaps others that ... do not. But for the most part, we want our community to know that they are valued, seen, and heard.

Local newspapers are a conduit for information. They have the potential to connect the dots, to share the heart and soul of the community, to showcase the highs and the lows.

It's a responsibility that we don't take lightly. And when we miss events, we feel like we've let the community down.

This is why, after much thought, I felt the need to put pen to paper on this topic.

We truly believe every story is worth telling. We are here to listen, to

learn, to reflect, and to share your stories. But at the end of the day, we're only human. We cannot bloom all year long.

This is why I encourage you to connect with us. Send us photos you love, write letters to run, submit story ideas, and include us in upcoming events. Based

on availability, we run press releases free of charge, and often do stories on the topic as well. If we can't make an event, send us photos afterwards. We will always run them, and looking at the pictures will bring smiles to our faces. I promise you that.

A newspaper is a living document; fed by the community, nurtured by its writers, and supported by the staff.

In light of the news that's been shared of the many papers that have closed down across the province, I truly believe that there will forever be a place for print in this community.

We just all have to work together. It takes a village.

If you have content, ideas, photos, events, or letters you would like to share, please send them to emily@haliburtonpress.com.

I can't wait to hear your story.



EMILY STONEHOUSE
Editor

Kwarky



"It's the eye of the storm!"

Flush with excitement

I THINK BEFORE we begin, I should note that the word "flush" means different things to different people. To a poker player or a bird hunter, it is something that causes happiness. To someone with digestive issues, it has entirely different connotations – although in some cases, it might also cause happiness.

This column is going to talk about the word from a bird hunter's point of view. I thought I should make that clear before I started telling you how thrilled I am by a good hard flush.

Yesterday was a prime example. Jenn, my springer spaniel Rosie, and I were on a hike in the woods, when Rosie suddenly got very "birdy" and charged at a boulder a few feet right of the trail.

For a split second, I thought, "I better refresh her memory about the difference between inanimate objects and birds."

But then it happened. A ruffed grouse flushed hard from behind the boulder.

To be clear, a toilet was not involved, although, on take off, it appeared the grouse could have used one.

The bird flew out low, straight, unobstructed, and in sight for 30 yards, which is something they do all the time when you don't have a gun in your hands. But what made it even more special was the look on Rosie's face.

While the term flush is exciting to humans, to a flushing dog, which Rosie is, excitement is an understatement.

As soon as that bird went out, Rosie stopped and turned to me, with a look that said, "Did you see that? Did you see that frickin' thing?!"

Of course, I did, and I praised her for it.

After all, she caught scent of the bird, followed it, and charged hard to the source, as her instincts drove her to do. More than that, she stopped chasing after the flush, which is what her training taught her to do.

The only missing links in the chain were the shooting and retrieving.

Rosie, an old hand at this game, knew that too.

I could tell because she gave me another look that was riddled with disappointment. Maybe I'm imagining things, but I am pretty sure it said, "Why didn't you shoot the frickin' bird?" Followed by, "Oh yeah, it was because you didn't bring your frickin' gun."

That last statement was dripping with sarcasm, by the way.

When Jenn was ahead of us on the trail, I pulled Rosie aside and said, "Listen, I'm just as disappointed as you are. That was a phenomenal flush. You did a great job..."

Rosie replied with a look that said, "I sure frickin' did. It's too bad you didn't hold up your frickin' end of the bargain."

I then explained to Rosie that I would have brought a gun but Jenn just wanted a nice hike through the autumn woods rather than a hunt.

"So, you are saying it is Mom's frickin' fault?" Rosie replied.

Since Jenn was far ahead by this point, I nodded profusely.

"Well, isn't that frickin' great?" Rosie said.

We soon caught up to Jenn and continued our hike as if nothing had happened.

I suppose some of you might be surprised by Rosie's language.

But you should cut her some slack. After all, she is a bird dog. And they are known for having fowl mouths.



STEVE GALEA
Beyond 35

IN OTHER WORDS

Columns and Letters to the Editor

Who are the smart ones?

THE LONGER I'm around the more I am convinced that animals are smarter than people.

I'm not the only one who thinks that. Anyone who watches television news or drives Ontario's freeways has seen that there are a lot of not-so-smart humans out there.

Meanwhile, science is producing research showing that animals are far smarter, and far more sophisticated, than previously believed. Studies have proven that animals can have cognitive faculties that are superior to those of humans.

These are upending centuries of belief that humans are the smartest of all animals and that all the others are simply dumb critters. Even the ancient Greek philosopher Aristotle argued that humans are superior to all other animals because of our ability to reason.



JIM POLING SR.

From Shaman's Rock

Now we are seeing that even critters like rats, crows and pigeons have levels of intelligence that could not have been imagined years ago. Rats are considered so intelligent that they are regularly used in medical experiments that often prove beneficial to humans.

Many of us view pigeons as silly birds, flitting about making messes, and seemingly without any brains.

In the scientific community pigeons are known as the rats of the sky because of their intelligence.

Experiments have been done in which pigeons are trained to differentiate between paintings by Picasso and Monet. They even have learned to distinguish male from female faces.

Crows have a form of higher thought in that they know what knowledge they have and are able to ponder that knowledge. Pondering knowledge allows humans to make new discoveries. It has allowed crows to make decisions that enable them to create and use tools and do complex tasks.

You can witness the intelligence of animals just watching the squirrels and blue jays on your property. They have to remember thousands of locations where they have cached food, locations that might have been changed significantly by weather and other environmental factors.

Many of us humans can't remember where we left our car keys from one hour to the next.

Also, have you ever watched a squirrel scratching out a place to hide its food? It knows you are watching and is not putting the snacks in the hole being dug. It's actually tucking them into its armpit to hide in another location where you are not present.

We have known for a long time how bats and dolphins listen to reflected sounds to find objects they need. And, fish use vibration receptors in their skins to detect prey and predator movements, water depth and water temperature.

Birds can do something interesting that humans can't – besides flying. They can see ultraviolet light. Humans can't because they are missing the photoreceptor cone that allows seeing short wavelength UV light.

Birds also have something in their eyes that allows them to perceive more colours than humans.

Even the tiny ant is considered to have intelligence it uses like a computer system. Ants don't think as individuals, but as a network that sets up predetermined ways of doing things, like algorithms on a computer.

By using their 'algorithms' they support not just their individual survival, but the survival of their colony.

In contrast, humans are often short-sighted, preferring to look after ourselves instead of the entire community.

We tend to judge animal intelligence against our own. This is a mistake because animal smartness is far different and used for purposes different from ours.

There is a growing trend for humans to learn more from nature. That's a good thing because nature is vast storehouse of information that humans have tended to ignore.

Ant colonies and wolf packs, for instance, tell us about working together for the survival of the group. Many other animals have many other lessons on living, if we take time to observe and learn from them.

Look at a dog. Cute looking and seemingly pretty dumb. But dogs have exceptional intelligence that has enabled them to discover and use an important tool – the human being.

Long ago, dogs discovered that we humans are terrific puzzle solvers that make dogs' lives less complicated. Dogs learned that humans can be used to solve difficult puzzles like closed doors, empty food bowls and tangled leashes.

Pretty smart, eh?

letters to the editor

Thank you to Ross and HHHS

To the Editor,

Aging Well Haliburton would like to honour the life and work of Shiela Robb a friend and member of the committee. Shiela was suddenly faced with serious health issues and through her short battle for life she began to draft a letter thank the Lindsay and Haliburton hospitals for their compassionate care. Unfortunately Shiela died before she could finish her letter. She was

so grateful for the loving care she received and it was important to her that the staff know that they were appreciated.

On behalf of our friend we would like to thank the staff at the Ross and HHHS for all that you did for our dear friend Shiela.

Carol Browne and Heather May
Minden

AH recreation committee survey

The Algonquin Highlands Recreation Committee has launched a new survey regarding recreational programming, activities and events in the Township.

The survey is available on the Let's Connect Algonquin Highlands website at letsconnectalgonquinhighlands.ca/algonquin-highlands-recreationsurvey/survey_tools/algonquin-highlands-recreation-survey

The committee is hoping as many AH residents and users of Township facilities as possible will take a few minutes to provide responses. Feedback will be used to guide the direction of recreational programming, activities and events in the Township of Algonquin Highlands. The survey will remain open until Oct. 25.

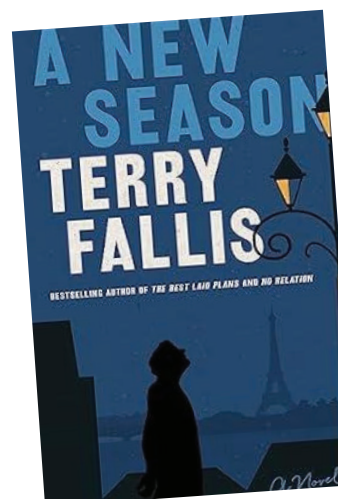
Submitted



Sweater weather

Fall is in the air in Haliburton County./ Photo by Cody Evans

HCPL's Book of the Week



Jack McMaster seemingly has it all. A beautiful house, a loving son of many talents (including cooking, which is great news for Jack, if not for his waistline), even a special bond with his buddies in his ball hockey league. But he's also learning to live with loss, leaving a gaping hole in his life – a life that will never be the same as before.

Then, a short and shocking video from an unexpected source gives him the gumption to make a change and maybe even haul himself out of his melancholia. Inspired by his lifelong fascination with 1920s Paris, Jack finally visits the City of Light, following in the footsteps of Hemingway and Fitzgerald, and wandering the Left Bank. Slowly, the colour seeps back into his life, aided by a chance encounter in a café that leads Jack into the art world, and a Paris mystery nearly a century old.

A New Season by Terry Fallis is available to borrow from the Haliburton County Public Library.

'Love, kindness, compassion, and awareness': a day at Dharma

by **EMILY STONEHOUSE**
Editor

One of my favourite parts about this job is that when I am interested in something in the community, I get to have access to the inside scoop.

I had thought about contacting the Dharma Centre of Canada for quite some time; often driving past the sign but never fully understanding what it was.

So when one of the board members of the facility called my office one day and invited me for a tour out of the blue, I was all too eager to accept.

Located on 400 acres of land down Galway Road in Kinmount, the centre recognizes that it is on the traditional territory of the Michi Saagiig and Chippewa Nations, collectively known as the Williams Treaties First Nations.

"We want the centre to be a place of study and meditation," said Karen Russell, the chair of the Dharma board and a veteran instructor at the facility, as she welcomed me to the property with an offering of tea. "And we would like the centre to have a universal approach, but the foundation is firmly rooted in Buddhism."

Founded in 1966 by Namgyal Rinpoche, the Dharma Centre is one of the oldest meditation centres in North America. "Dharma" is the practice of seeking the "universal truth of liberation". "The goal is for one to be a fully grounded human being," said Russell, "we let go of patterns and concepts that get in the way of being fully grounded." This was what Rinpoche set out to do with the facility.

Originally hailing from Toronto, ON, Rinpoche attended a Christian seminary before going on to study philosophy and psychology. Through his schooling and interests, he found himself involved in a socialist youth movement, which landed him in Russia as a young adult.

He then traveled to England, where he began to explore the idea of Buddhism, which launched his trajectory into developing the Dharma Centre in Canada many years later. In 1958, he was given a higher ordination and the name Bhikkhu Ananda Bodhi, and he spent most of his time teaching in both Toronto and Kinmount, while also traveling across the globe to continue his education. He passed away in 2003, and some of his ashes live on the property, under a large Sri Lankan dagoba that was built in his honour.

The centre offers a variety of retreats that could span anywhere from a single day, to multiple years. Some of the topics include body and breath work, meditation on loving and kindness, transcendent sound and music, compassion, astronomy and physics, and awareness. Some of these sessions are offered as Zoom retreats, while others take place over a series of days, weeks, or months at the Dharma facility.

While I was visiting, a silent retreat was in progress, with signs around the property noting that. "We spend a lot of time in our heads," shared Russell, when asked about the purpose



A statue that sits proudly in the meditation centre at the Dharma Institute in Kinmount. While a belief in Buddhism is not required to attend one of the many retreats the facility offers, it is the core of many of the teachings. /EMILY STONEHOUSE Staff

of the silent retreats, "when we're talking, that inner dialogue gets going, but when you go quiet, that stops. And suddenly you have time to listen."

Russell noted that the property itself plays a large role in the retreats. "When you're supported by a property that's peaceful and allows you to open up and be clear, then you realize it is a natural awakening," she said. "And when you're in nature, that experience is enhanced."

The property has a main building, where fresh, healthy meals are prepared and served, a temple where many retreats and meditations are facilitated, a large tent for activities, and a series of cabins and accommodations where visitors can stay onsite during their retreats.

The Dharma Centre is a registered not-for-profit organization, and relies on fundraising and grants to stay operational, and keep up with the maintenance costs of the facility. "We

are currently trying to make the centre more and more green," said Russell, referencing the intention of making the buildings environmentally sustainable, in an attempt to "get it to the 21st century," as she phrased it.

As we wandered around the property, I was curious about the type of attendees on the retreats. Russell noted that some retreats were designed for seasoned visitors, while others are for anyone interested in learning. "We're all beginning in different ways," she said.

Russell also noted that a belief in Buddhism is not required to attend. "Buddhism is not a religion," she told me, "rather, it's a study to help you awaken. Love, kindness, compassion, and awareness are what's needed in order to feel grounded."

A full history of the facility and list of available retreats are available on the Dharma Centre website.

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A farewell to Haliburton County

by **CHRIS STEPHENSON**
Special to the Times

At the recent September library board meeting, I announced my resignation from Haliburton County Public Library (HCPL.) This was a tough day for me, and I had spent the weekend before calling our board members and then sharing the news with our staff. Rest assured, I'm not jumping ship to lead another library! I've been happy here, and I've loved this community since I was a kid. My parents live nearby, and I have friends in and around the county. But now, I'm going to make healing my full-time job, as I've had some recent health issues develop, and I need to make some lifestyle changes.

My news was met with understanding and support from my colleagues and wise words from the board members, who reminded me that taking care of my health is the most important job. Together with them and an amazing library team, we've accomplished much in my two years in Haliburton County. From completing the HCPL Strategic Plan and launching the Dorset Depot Lockers, to re-opening Stanhope branch and making key staffing changes across the library system, it's been a busy time. I was especially pleased to work with the community on the rebranding of the library, building an accessible website with the administrative team, and to finally see the library's first ever courier and programming van arrive and have the HCPL logo affixed.

When I arrived at the library, in the fall of September 2021, I sat down with new and senior staff, partners of the library, our board members, and patrons to ask what they felt a top priority for HCPL might be. Resoundingly I heard people wanted increased communication about the organization, within it and beyond it, so patrons and residents knew what was going on and what the public library does in each of our communities. That's what I set out to do. And with the help of two local radio stations, three newspapers, relationships with our local cultural and educational institutions – and many, many library partners and supporters – this part of my job became easy. Wherever I go in Haliburton County, I've enjoyed the conversations I've had with people about their library experience and learned much about how we might continue to refine our programs, the collection, and our services. Even my supermarket trips have resulted in a couple great ideas, or new ways of seeing some aspect of accessibility at the library!

It's been a bit strange working on my own job posting this week. But I know there's been a lot of change in the library world in Ontario and across Canada, and fall is a time when people might be thinking about moving to a beautiful region. At a recent library conference, I mentioned the position becoming available, and I sensed there was some interest by talented peers who began reimagining a future in Haliburton County.



Chris Stephenson, Haliburton County Public Library CEO, will be stepping down from his position this fall. /FILE

In my case, I'll be creating a future with my partner, Amanda, on the east coast. The last time I took a hiatus for a health issue 14 years ago, this led to positive change for me, and it also became a creative period. I went back to school to become a credentialed librarian, and I changed the course of my life in a meaningful way. So, for myself, I'm not just a little sad but also excited for what may be around the next corner. Public libraries have given me so much, and I will always support them. Haliburton County Public Library, as you may know, is a special place with committed people. We've done some good things here, and there are more exciting things in the works to come. Thanks to our patrons, visitors, and residents for making me feel at home here. You have been a part of our success.

I'll be at the Administration office in Haliburton (and the Minden Hills branch on Thursdays) until Friday, Oct. 20, and my final event will be the Gala fundraising event hosted by the Friends of the Library, on Sunday, Oct. 22. I hope to see you around before I go.

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Community cooperation encouraged in Dorset

by JAMES MATTHEWS
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Public-private partnerships has often been successful at improving communities. And the Dorset Community Partnership Fund (DCPF) has seen how public-private partnerships grow investments in the community, said Collin Reaney, a board member of the group.

Reaney and board member Penny McEachern gave an update on various community initiatives during Algonquin Highlands township council meeting Sept. 21.

He said meeting with the elected officials was done in the spirit of engagement and “having conversations around solutions as opposed to not doing things.”

The Township of Lake of Bays did a Dorset Pavilion Park and parks study that cancelled a 12-year partnership that had been deemed by all involved to have been successful.

“Private-public partnerships grow investments in the community,” Reaney said.

Reaney said the report ignored park programming around art, sports, yoga, church services, and other community events. DCPF even uses donations and grants to cover capital costs to maintain the park.

DCPF built the only public running-water public washroom facility in the community. It compliments other recreational and

tourism-related assets in Dorset such as trail works, the children’s park, Cedar Narrows, and Dorset Tower.

“The idea is to have all these assets working together to make Dorset an attractive community,” he said.

Reaney said the DCPF met with Lake of Bays council on three occasions. But there was no opportunity for open conversation.

“It was just, ‘I don’t want to do this’,” he said of that council’s reception.

So now the group is approaching Algonquin Highlands to spark a dialogue between the communities with DCPF involved.

“I do want you to know that council is looking at this,” Mayor Liz Danielsen said. “We’re considering and definitely recognizing the importance of (Dorset Pavilion Park) to the community.”

Reaney said private-public partnerships make a difference.

“It’s our idea to kind of encourage cooperation and help defer the cost to service all those in need,” he said.

The Health Hub continues to provide comprehensive primary care to an annual average of 700 patients. And DCPF pays for a part-time registered practical nurse to extend services there.

A third examination room and its equipment was added. And the group pays for casual coverage for staff and for a nurse practitioner and an administrative assistance when needed.

Danielsen said council will continue to support the DCPF, but it would be easier if the group formally applied to council for the necessary funding each year.

“We have drawn a line between operational costs and capital costs and there’s lots of rationale behind it,” she said.



The Golden Gulls

The Golden Gull Water Regatta was designed for individuals over the age of 50 to safely participate in a community paddling event. It was organized by locals Johnny Waite and Andrea Hagarty. /TIM YANO Special to the Times

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Level: Beginner

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Answers on page 12

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!



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How not to get scammed and other skills for modern life

by **ERIN KERNOHAN-BERNING**
Special to the Times

According to the Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada Fraud Study (2021), 73 per cent of Canadians have experienced a fraud attempt, and 33 per cent have fallen victim to fraud at some time in their lives. According to the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre, so far in 2023 Canadians lost over \$200 million to fraud. Most fraud since 2021 has been via electronic means, whether that's been by phone, internet, text, social media, or email.

Scams are nothing new, and scammers have often evolved to use the tools of the day. In 300 BC a fellow named Hegestratos attempted to commit fraud when he took out a loan for his cargo using his ship as collateral, but planned to sink his emptied ship to avoid paying back the money he borrowed. Scammers who plied their trade before the telephone relied on the slowness of communication to operate, skipping one town for the next before their victims were wise to their tricks. Pre-Internet chain letter scams duped many into mailing money to strangers with the inevitably broken promise of receiving thousands of dollars in return. Today, internet, phone calls, texts, emails, and social media are the tools used for the bulk of scams Canadians are exposed to.

Technology has made many aspects of our lives easier and more efficient, but has also made many aspects of the scammer's trade easier and more efficient. Scammers can send out large numbers of messages to potential victims, hoping to hook someone in a moment of weakness. Malicious software can be easily launched via links in texts and emails and, without us knowing, capture personal and financial information

on our devices. That's pretty scary and can make us feel helpless in an online world where it seems everyone is out to get us. But there are things we can do to keep ourselves safe and still enjoy the convenience and necessity of using technology in our daily lives.

To start, the Government of Canada has a thorough and easy to use online resource at GetCyberSafe.ca. Their website goes through everything from how to set up strong passwords, to two-factor authentication, to how to secure your devices, and even a checkup quiz to help you figure out if you should be doing more. GetCyberSafe.ca contains all the good advice for using your technology safely on one website from experts whose mission is to keep Canadians safe online. But even after you have followed the excellent advice at GetCyberSafe.ca, there are some mindset changes that can also help protect you when scammers inevitably reach out.

First, always remember that anyone can get scammed. Many scammers manipulate people into giving up personal and financial information willingly. They count on us falling for this manipulation in a moment of distractedness or stress. And no matter how clever we think we are, we all have moments where we are susceptible to being tricked. Often scammers will create a sense of urgency by telling their victims that they must provide money or information immediately or there will be some kind of consequence. The sense of urgency overrides our ability to think, and we go into action mode. But we need to take that sense of urgency and use it as a cue not to act on the demands of a stranger, but to pause and think.

Second, remember that you don't have to be polite to scammers. If you get one of those fake calls from "Microsoft," just hang up. You don't even owe them a "sor-

ry, no thank you." If you get an unsolicited text or an email that says you need to click a link and enter your personal information, delete it. If you are followed on social media by a stranger who says they are in love with you, but can you please send them money, block and report their account. Personally, I don't even answer my phone for unfamiliar numbers. If it's actually important, they'll leave a message. You are never going to hurt a scammer's feelings; they will just move on to one of their other many potential victims.

Finally, check in with people you know. If you receive a strange email or Facebook message from someone you know, contact them about it by another means. Maybe

their accounts were compromised, and they don't know. If you are worried that a scammer did get access to your computer, talk to someone you know and trust to help you fix it. If you received a strange request from a stranger, run it by a trusted friend before you act on it. Scammers of old were often thwarted when folks started sharing what they found out about them, and same goes for now. As a community, we create safety when we help and support one another.

If you think you have been the victim of fraud, report it at the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre website: antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca

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Share The Warmth is all about community



Organizers help sort the donations received for the annual Share The Warmth event in 2021. The initiative invites people to donate their winter gear, which will be given away for free on Oct. 28th in Haliburton and Minden. Items accepted include winter coats, boots, hats, mitts, scarves, socks and more. /PHOTO submitted

The unseasonably warm temperatures may be welcomed by many in Haliburton County, particularly for those who do not have adequate winter clothing to get them through the coldest months of the year. But before long the days will get cooler and many residents of the area will be needing winter gear that they cannot afford.

The eighth annual Share The Warmth initiative from SIRCH Community Services aims to help keep everyone warm by providing free winter gear for adults and children.

From Oct. 6 through to the 22, everyone is encouraged to donate any winter clothing items they may have that are in good condition. This can include coats, jackets, boots, snow pants, hats, mitts, scarves, etc.

Donation bins will be set up in Minden at Dollo’s Foodland, Easton’s Valu-Mart, St. Paul’s Anglican Church and in Haliburton at Haliburton Foodland, Todd’s Independent and Glecoff’s Family Store.

If you have items you would like to donate, please ensure they are clean, the zipper works and they are void of stains, rips and other signs of extreme wear.

All donated items will be given away for free on Oct. 28 in Haliburton and Minden, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The give-aways will be happening at the SIRCH Bistro, located at 49 Maple Ave. in Haliburton and St. Paul’s Anglican Church at 19 Invergordon Ave. in Minden.

This initiative was originally started by Tammy Warburton, who came up with the idea during her maternity leave in 2014.

“I just kind of put it together in my spare bedroom,” she said. “I had a pile of boots, socks, coats, even warm sweaters.”

She ended up giving away nearly 100 items that year, between Haliburton and Minden. She still remembers how grateful the recipients were.

“It was wonderful watching some of the people come in,” she said. “It was actually a snowstorm that day and there were a couple of people who came in and they didn’t have anything. So when they left they looked so happy.”

The following year (2015), Warburton was working for SIRCH Community Services and the organization approached her about partnering with her on the initiative. She was grateful for the help and this partnership lasted for the next few years. Eventually it grew so much that it became one of SIRCH’s annual events.

“They [SIRCH] offered to take it over, and I was so glad for that and so happy to see it carry on,” she said. “SIRCH has done an amazing job with it and I am so proud that they were the organization to take it over. It was a need and SIRCH is wonderful at finding the needs.”

Warburton still helps out as a volunteer every year and is thrilled to see so much generosity in Haliburton County.

Since taking it over, SIRCH has given away thousands of winter items in Haliburton County and Bancroft.

In Haliburton County, the HKPR District Health Unit estimates that approximately 25 per cent of local children live in poverty, meaning new winter gear may not be an option for them. It is more important than ever to help those who are vulnerable stay warm.

SIRCH executive director Gena Robertson has been amazed by the outpouring of support this initiative has received in the past and hopes this year will be no different. She is particularly appreciative of the many stores that collect the winter clothing on SIRCH’s behalf.

For more information about Share The Warmth or SIRCH Community services, email info@sirch.on.ca or call 705-457-1742.

Submitted by SIRCH Community Services



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Flights in the fall

The Stanhope and Community Fall Colours Fly-In/Drive-In was held on Saturday, Sept. 30 at the Stanhope Municipal Airport for visitors to check out classic cars, planes, helicopters, fire equipment, heavy machinery, and food from Till Death BBQ. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff



A plane takes off from the Stanhope Municipal Airport during the Fly-In on Saturday.



Hundreds of visitors check out the classic cars on Saturday.

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Huskies’ unbeaten streak ends at five

by ALEX GALLACHER
Special to the Times

The Haliburton County Huskies headed down to the LECOM Harborcentre in Buffalo, New York for 2023 OJHL Governor’s Showcase. The Showcase is designed to show off all 24 OJHL teams before various USports, NCAA and NHL scouts. The Huskies would face off against the Oakville Blades and the Toronto JRC.

Battle with the Blades

The first matchup against the Blades took place on the Key Bank Rink, with plenty of scouts and other officials in attendance. The Blades struck first at 6:45 of the first when Max Donohoe lit the lamp to give the blades the early lead. Hunter Martell added his first as a Husky right before the end of the period, burying a powerful slap shot from the point past Gavin McCarthy to knot things up at 1 a piece. Heading into the second, the Blades and Huskies were extremely even. Thirteen seconds into the second, the Blades would find twine, courtesy of Sean Clarke. Playing from behind once again, Ty Petrou found the back of the net to tie things up before the end of the second, Petrou’s second as a Husky and first of the Showcase. Lucas Stevenson gave the Huskies their first lead of the game six minutes into the third. Burying a shot in a scramble in front of the net, the Huskies enjoyed a lead for roughly two minutes before the Blades came back with a vengeance.



#20 Lucas Vacca celebrates a goal on Saturday. Despite the hustle, the Huskies and Cougars tied 2-2 after a double overtime. /TIM YANO Special to the Times

Luke Johnston and Aidan Taylor scored in the third to give the Blades a 4-3 lead. The Huskies pelted McCarthy with everything they had but Oakville held on for their first win of the showcase and first ever against Haliburton County.

A comeback by the Canadiens

After the Huskies won the first meeting against the JRC at the SG Nesbitt earlier in September, the JRC were hungry for revenge

against the boys in the Blue. The first period was a dream start for the Huskies, as Captain Patrick Saini lit the lamp not once, but twice. A point shot from Raine Nadeau pinballed towards the net before Saini made the final tip past Josh Branton to give the Huskies the lead. The second Saini goal came a few minutes later when he ripped down the wing before beating Branton blocker side to double the Huskies lead. JRC added one of their own in the second thanks to Connor Van Wheelie. Heading into the third, the JRC comeback was in full swing. Luka Grazziano tied the match at 2 a piece before the Huskies saw their win evaporate. Lucas Stanojevic tipped in a shot from Ethan McFarland to give the JRC the 3-2 win, and sent the Huskies back to the County winless in Buffalo. The Huskies returned to the SG Nesbitt Arena on the Saturday, Sept. 30 for their final match of week four against the Cobourg Cougars. Heading into the game, Huskies forward Declan Bowmaster announced he has com-

mitted to an NCAA D1 school. Bowmaster will be suiting up for Merrimack College once his time as the Huskies is done. Bowmaster is the second Huskies D1 commit after Oliver Tarr signed with Canisius University last season. Gavin McGahey-Smith was the first Husky to score, as he buried a shot past Ryan Piros to put the Huskies up by one. Less than two minutes later, and the Cougars tied the game just before the period was up, a scramble in front of the net allowed Jordan Fuller to pot one past Visan. Lucas Vacca added his second of the season at the 9:50 mark of the second, giving the Huskies their second lead of the match. In typical Cougar fashion, they would score less than three minutes later. Riley Pitt found the back of the net at the 11:04 mark, bringing the game back to level. The third period saw four goals on the board, the first coming from Captain Patty. Saini drove the net hard and buried a quick shot home to put the Huskies up by one at 3:45 of the third. His goal was swiftly followed by one from Huskies blueliner Izayah Luddington. Ripping a powerful slapshot home from the point, Luddington tallied his first career OJHL goal and first as a Husky. The Huskies now enjoyed a 4-2 lead with a lot of time left, but the Cougars stopped the bleeding as Andy Reist beat Visan to cut the lead to one. The Huskies needed to hold on, but as the clock wore down Alex Bradshaw was given an illegal equipment minor which allowed the Cougars to pull the goalie and make it a 6 on 4. Pitt made no mistake, beating Visan top shelf to send the game to OT. OT1 solved nothing, but in the dying seconds of OT2 Bowmaster had a breakaway against Piros. Heartbreaking, Bowmaster missed high and the Huskies have settled for their second tie in four games. Bowmaster snapped his stick out of frustration, as emotions were running high on the Haliburton County bench. Your hometown Huskies will be back on the ice Friday Oct. 6 as they venture to the Chestnut Hill Developments Recreation Complex for a second meeting with the Pickering Panthers. They will return to the Nesbitt on Saturday Oct. 7 for a tussle with the Dukes of Wellington.

Cougar Craziness

Heading into the game, Huskies forward Declan Bowmaster announced he has com-

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A project of the Haliburton County Community Cooperative Thanks to Heritage Canada for their support



A thank you from Minden Rotary

It was a beautiful end of summer afternoon for Minden Rotary's 3rd Annual Golf Tournament at Gull River Golf on Sunday September 10th. The moneys raise this year will go to The Abbey Retreat. The Abbey Retreat is an amazing Healing space for people affected by cancer and their loved ones.

We would like to thank all of our wonderful and generous sponsors for this year's tournament as well as Gull River Golf and Mulligans for a great event and dinner. Thank you to all 64 golfers who participated and to all of our volunteers.

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We would also like to thank our many prize sponsors; Abbey Retreat, Gull River Golf, Boshkung Social, Dentistry in the Highlands, Home Hardware, Pharmasave, Mostly Her, Up River, Alex Roome, Pine Reflections, Renato D'Ambrosio, Dairy Queen, Country Magic, Cassidy, Molly's, Winter Green and Dave Elliot and County Signs.

Submitted by Minden Rotary



Taking time to remember

The Hali County Youth Hub participated in Orange Shirt Day on Sept. 30 to honour Residential School Survivors, and to remember those who didn't make it home. Participants from across the county came out to reflect, share, and remember. /TIM YANO Special to the Times

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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills has received applications to consider by-laws to stop up, close, and convey those parcels of land more particularly described as follows:

- **File No. PLSRA2022064:** Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Big Orillia Lake, lying in front 1339 Nova Trail located within Lot 29, Concession 14, Geographic Township of Hindon
- **File No. PLSRA2022009:** Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Soyers Lake, lying in front of property having roll number 4616-032-000-44960 on Soyers Lake Road located within Lot 31, Concession 9, Geographic Township of Minden

The above noted applications are available for inspection in the Building and Planning Department located at 7 Milne Street, Minden, Ontario by appointment only. Additional information may be obtained by contacting the undersigned.

AND TAKE NOTICE should you wish to provide comments with respect to any of the above referenced applications, please submit in writing those comments to the undersigned not later than November 3, 2023.

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE any person who claims that their land will be prejudicially affected is asked to contact the undersigned at their earliest convenience.

AND TAKE FURTHER NOTICE if deemed advisable, By-laws giving effect to the proposed closure and conveyance will be passed by the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills. Please note that a Council meeting to consider a By-law for the above referenced applications will be scheduled at a later date following the requisite commenting period.

Amanda Dougherty, B.A. (Hons)
Manager of Planning, Township of Minden Hills
705-286-1260 Ext. 506
adougherty@mindenhills.ca



A fresh look at the MCFC

The Minden Community Food Centre is undergoing some major renovations; replacing the loading dock, landscaping the exterior, and making the building look more inviting overall. The rest of the building will also be cleaned up. All work is being donated by partners in the community, and it is hoped that work will be completed by the end of the week. /Photo submitted

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Fotos for Food Bank

A unique fundraising raffle, Fotos for Food Bank, is an opportunity for a Haliburton Business to win a full day of professional commercial photography to help promote or elevate their business website, marketing, advertising, social media, etc. This creative contest is the idea of professional photographer Nation Wong of Nation Wong Photographics. (www.nationwong.com) with all proceeds going directly to the 4Cs Food Bank in Haliburton. The raffle is open to all members our local Haliburton County Business community and This contest is supported and in partnership with the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce.

“As new small business in Haliburton, by joining the Haliburton Chamber of Commerce and attending the annual business gala, I was welcomed by many local business people who were interested in my business and truly supportive of local business and the community,” said Nation Wong of Nation Wong Photographics. “There are many important local charities that need funding and it was not easy narrowing down to one. Personally I hear so much about food insecurity today and not having food on the table is a situation that no one should be in. Judy Macduff, director of the Haliburton County Food Bank, mentioned that every penny counts which really resonated with me. So I’m hoping to raise as much I can for the Food Bank. I’m happy to say that Foodland – Haliburton and Todd’s Your Independent Grocer have already committed to contributing to the Food Bank through the Fotos for Food Bank.”

Prize: Opportunity for a Haliburton Business to win a professional commercial photography package to help promote or elevate their business website, marketing, advertising, social media, etc. Prize includes a two hour one to one meeting to discuss and plan the professional photos that you need to help promote your business, and a full day of commercial photography to showcase your products and services. provided by Nation Wong Photographics. www.nationwong.com

Raffle Rules: Fotos for Food Bank contest is open to all local business community members. Raffle entry is \$50 per entry. Contact Judy Macduff at Haliburton Food Bank for raffle entry at 705-457-3010. Cheques can be dropped off at 33 York Street. Provide business name, phone number, email and name. Also mention Fotos for Food Bank to get proof of entry. You can also donate online through the Food banks website – ensure you include Fotos for Food Bank in the private message.

4Cs Food Bank in Haliburton (www.haliburton4cs.org) and so many food banks across Canada have seen a twofold or more increase in the last year. Haliburton Food Bank serves around 175 local families a month. The money raised helps families buy fresh produce, milk and eggs with vouchers. The Food Bank doesn’t currently provide refrigerated food, the funds will be used for vouchers which can provide families fresh food.

Submitted



Have a thought, comment or opinion you'd like to share?

Send a letter to the editor to
emily@haliburtonpress.com



Tours and tales

Charlene McConnell from Purple Door Pottery Studio had clay flowers on display during the Studio Tour Haliburton Highlands. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff



A Manitoba Maple wood bowl carved by artist Paul Rolfe.



Dar Bolahood's vibrant textiles are on display at Studio W as Rose Pearson's guest artist.

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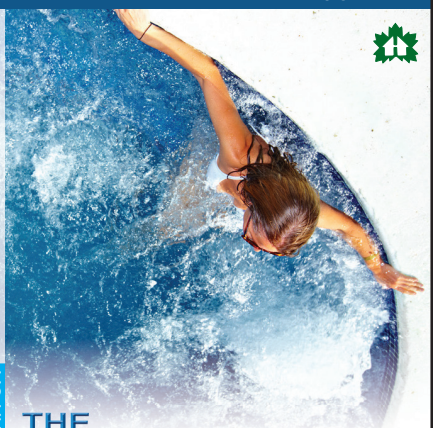
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Please forward your resume to lbacik-zanetti@haliburtoncounty.ca no later than 4:30pm on October 19, 2023.

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Private Notice: Let it be known an unrebutted ecclesiastic agreement with witnesses has been reached between minister Surinder-Kaur and the private man Bob Hamilton acting as Commissioner of Revenue and the private woman Marie-Claude Bibeau acting as Minister of National Revenue. The full text of the scriptural agreement may be seen at <http://www.allcreatorsgifts.blogspot.com>

520 THANK YOU



Thank You

September 26th was a Great Celebration of Life for **Patrick Monaghan.**

The family wishes to thank everyone in attendance. Thank you for the Love, Tears, Laughter and Dancing. Also, a thank you to all who sent cards, texts, emails, phone calls, and posted on FaceBook. A special thank you to Canoe FM, The B&B Blues Band and the Highlands Buckslide Blues Society. A big thank you to Gord Barnes for being MC and the Haliburton Legion, Mary Squires and Louise Ewing for organizing the event.

Patrick will be missed by many.
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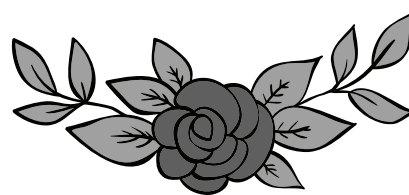
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The Times
MINDEN ONTARIO

650 OBITUARIES



In Loving Memory of
Clifford Maxwell McKelvey

Max passed away peacefully at the Haliburton Hospital on Tuesday, September 26, 2023, at the age of 84, after a short but courageous battle with cancer.

Dear father of Keith and Marie-Claire, Andrew and Jenna, Heather and Kirk. Loving Papa Max/Grandpa to Lauren, Tessa, Ashley, Brianna, Alexa, Marshall, Natalie and Amélie. Son of the late Mary and Harold McKelvey. Dear brother of Pearl (the late Arnold) Cowen, Vera (the late Ron) Smith, Irma (Don) Pasquino, Nancy (Jim) Ackerblade and predeceased by Frank (the late Barb MacKeigan) McKelvey. Fondly remembered by his many nieces, nephews, in-laws, extended family and many, many friends.

Max worked primarily as a front-end loader operator for the Township of Minden for 25 years, and worked on road construction and maintenance throughout Ontario for more than 50 years. Max was a well-known fixture in Minden, where he lived his whole life. He had a heart of gold and was liked by all. He could regularly be found on Main Street sharing a chat or a laugh or at the very least, a G'day.

Friends are invited to visit the family at the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 127 Bobcaygeon Road, Minden, on Tuesday, October 10th, 2023 from 10:00 am until the time of the Service to Celebrate Max's Life at 12:00 pm, followed by interment at Minden Cemetery. Reception to follow at 2:00 pm at the Royal Canadian Legion Br. 636, 12847 Hwy. 35, Minden.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations directed to Archie Stouffer Nutrition Program for Kids in Memory of Max McKelvey through the link below would be appreciated by the family. <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/m/48501?fundID=246378&v2=true>



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LOOK INSIDE



Blackout

Ontario Hydro's big bucket helped ASES students plant trees on Earth Day.
See page 3



On the run

Archie Stouffer students are off to the races after excellent showing at meet
See page 12



HHSS action

We have coverage of Red Hawk football, rugby, and basketball.
See pages 14 to 16



Rabies clinic

Dr. Peter Bennett of the Minden Animal Hospital had his hands full.
See pages 3

In Quotes

"I didn't tell anybody for a couple of days. I thought they'd think we were crazy."
Bob Brown on his reaction after spotting a cougar at Big Bob Lake
See page 5

Cougars seen in Highlands

Rumours about mountain lions are true

by JERRY GROZELLE
Times staff

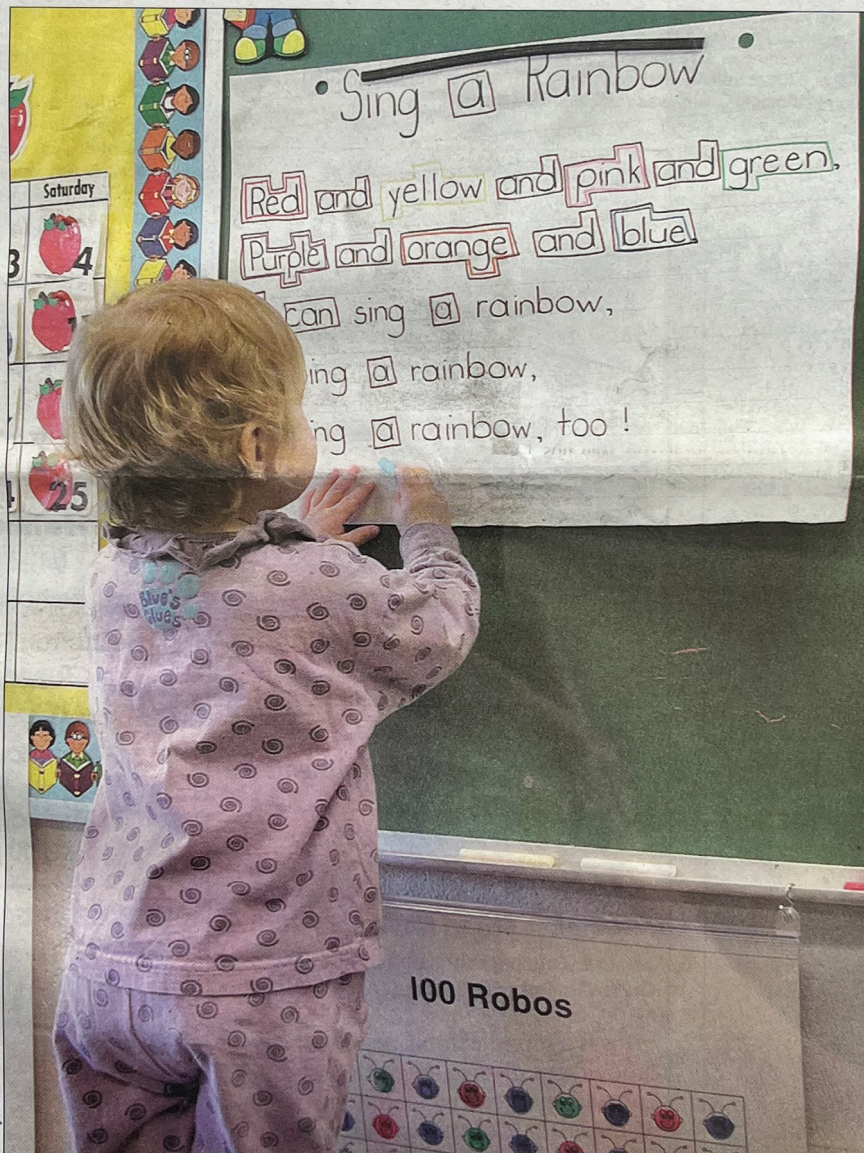
If you've ever been out in the wilds of Haliburton County and seen a flash of what appeared to be a puma (also known as cougar

or mountain lion), your eyes may not have been tricking you.

Sightings of this elusive animal are rare, but several have been reported in and around Haliburton County, as recently as this sum-

mer.

Bob Brown and his friend Ron Sullivan, both cottagers on the north shore of Big Bob Lake, had a close encounter with a puma
see CATS page 5



Sheryl Loucks/TIMES

Sing a Rainbow

Little Jorja Hie learns a new song (Sing a Rainbow, made popular by Kermit the Frog) while visiting her sister's classroom at Archie Stouffer Elementary School's open house held last Thursday. For more photos, see page 9.

Costs going up on Minden municipal building

by IZABELA JAROSZYNSKI
Times staff

Major problems with water and soil have driven up the price of the Minden Hills municipal building expansion, council was told last week.

Bob Romberg, the project manager for the site, told council that, although the project is progressing "quite satisfactorily," some unexpected issues have arisen.

During the excavation process, an underground stream was discovered. Water began spilling out from below the ground at about two to three gallons a minute, Romberg said, and the issue had to be dealt with immediately.

The site was "de-watered," he said. "Water had to be pumped out."

But the real expense came with changes to the design of the building. Because of the water level, the basement floor, which was originally to have been a concrete slab, had to be changed to a structural slab and the whole building raised six inches. This included an engineer's report and additional materials.

The water spillage also brought to light another issue of concern. "There was a noticeable sheen [on the soil] in areas where they

see ODOUR page 2

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